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OCCURRENCE OF THE CHILOPOD GENUS ETHMOSTIGMUS IN AMERICA

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In a collection of chilopods from California received for identification from the University of California, is a single specimen of a distinctly new species of the scolopendrid genus *Ethmostigmus*. This is of special interest from the point of view of distribution since the fifteen or so species heretofor known in the genus occur in the Ethiopean and Indo-Australian areas exclusively. The new species is here described.

Ethmostigmus californicus n. sp.

Dorsum olive brown in color, the posterior legs a lighter green or olive.

The antennae comparatively long, composed in the type of 19 articles all of which are longer than broad; the first three articles only are naked on the left antennae of the type, but on the right the fourth article is also naked except on the outer distal area where the fine short hairs are present as on subsequent articles, the absence of hair elsewhere on this article quite likely due to rubbing.

Prosternal teeth 3 — 3, the outermost tooth on each side small; dental plates set off by a transverse sulcus which forms a nearly right angle at the middle; a median longitudinal sulcus extending caudad nearly to middle of prosternum. (Cf. fig. 1.)

First sternite without sulci, but those from second to the penult marked with paired longitudinal sulci which are incomplete posteriorly.

Last ventral plate elongate trapeziform, its caudal margin incurved; Coxopleural processes long, these moderately converging caudad but not distally in contact, each with a single point or spine at distal end, behind which on the dorsal line are three denticles, with in addition two sublateral denticles of which the more distal one is subventral in position; upper margin of process viewed in profile is straight back to beginning of acuminate portion. Pores small and densely arranged, the poriferous area extending caudad close to end of the process. (Cf. figs. 2 and 3.)

Tarsal spines single on legs 1 to 19. Prefemur of anal legs with the caudal process ending in a single tooth which is moderately large; two spinules on the dorsomesal line, two on mesal side, two on ventromesal line and three on ventral line.

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Length, 60mm.

Locality.—California, El Dorado Co., Snowline Camp. Holotype taken June 28, 1948.

This species is like *E. waiainus* of the Solomon Is., and *E. coonoranus* of India in having only the first three articles of the antennae naked or glabrous. From the first of these species it differs in having the apex of the coxopleural process with a single point instead of two, in having three dorsal spinules instead of one, and in having a tarsal spine on the nineteenth leg. From *coonoranus* it differs in having none of the legs with two tarsal spines, in not having the coxopleural process convex above, etc.

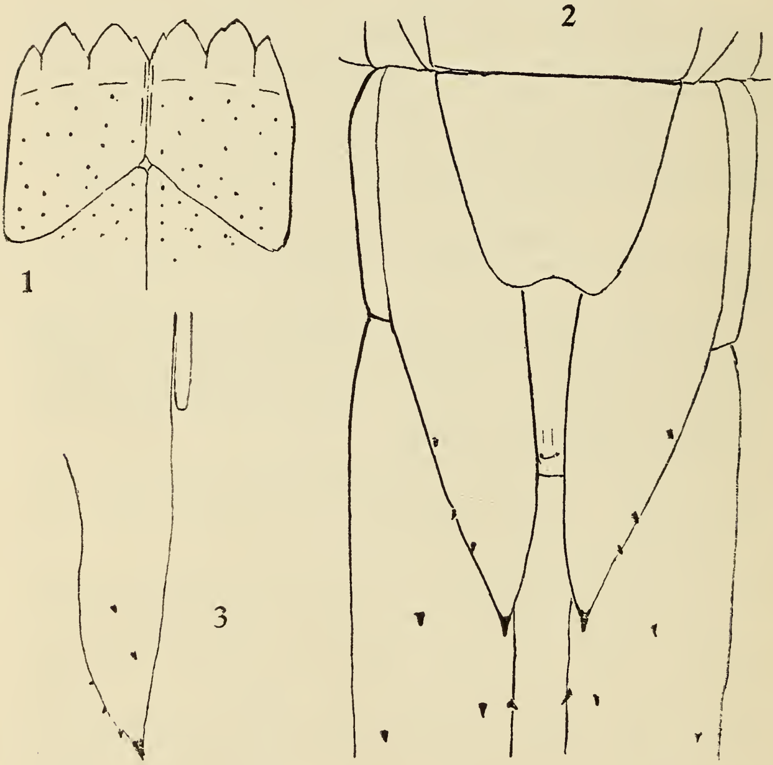

Fig. 1. Anterior portion of prosternum.
Fig. 2. Caudal end of body, ventral view.
Fig. 3. Lateral view of coxopleural process.